

16. (Amended) A structural airframe component as in claim 13, in which the thickness of the component material varies across the weld joint.

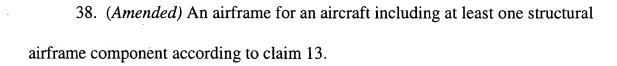
18. (Amended) A structural airframe component as in claim 13 in which the component comprises at least two skin panels friction stir butt welded together.



20. (Amended) A structural airframe component as in claim 13 in which the at least one friction stir butt welded joint joins at least two extruded integrally-stiffened wing panel sections.



32. (Amended) A structural airframe component as in claim 13 in which the said weld joins a wing skin panel and one of a spar and rib.





39. (Amended) An aircraft wing including at least one structural airframe component according to claim 13.



- -- 40. (New) A structural airframe component as in claim 14 in which the thickness of the component material varies across the weld joint.
- 41. (New) A structural airframe component as in claim 14 in which the component comprises at least two skin panels friction stir butt welded together.



- 42. (New) A structural airframe component as in claim 16 in which the component comprises at least two skin panels friction stir butt welded together.
- 43. (*New*) A structural airframe component as in claim 14 in which the at least one friction stir butt welded joint joins at least two extruded integrally-stiffened wing panel sections.



- 44. (New) A structural airframe component as in claim 16 in which the at least one friction stir butt welded joint joins at least two extruded integrally-stiffened wing panel sections.
- 45. (*New*) A structural airframe component as in claim 18 in which the at least one friction stir butt welded joint joins at least two extruded integrally-stiffened wing panel sections.



46. (*New*) A structural airframe component as in claim 14 in which the said weld joins a wing skin panel and one of a spar and rib.



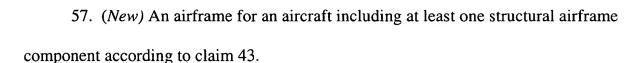
47. (New) A structural airframe component as in claim 16 in which the said weld joins a wing skin panel and one of a spar and rib.



48. (New) A structural airframe component as in claim 46 in which a part of the said one of a spar and rib forms part of an aerodynamic profile of the wing.

- 49. (*New*) A structural airframe component as in claim 47 in which a part of the said one of a spar and rib forms part of an aerodynamic profile of the wing.
- 50. (*New*) An airframe for an aircraft including at least one structural airframe component according to claim 14.
- 51. (*New*) An airframe for an aircraft including at least one structural airframe component according to claim 16.
- 52. (*New*) An airframe for an aircraft including at least one structural airframe component according to claim 18.
- 53. (*New*) An airframe for an aircraft including at least one structural airframe component according to claim 40.
- 54. (*New*) An airframe for an aircraft including at least one structural airframe component according to claim 41.
- 55. (*New*) An airframe for an aircraft including at least one structural airframe component according to claim 42.
- 56. (*New*) An airframe for an aircraft including at least one structural airframe component according to claim 20.







- 58. (*New*) An airframe for an aircraft including at least one structural airframe component according to claim 44.
- 59. (*New*) An airframe for an aircraft including at least one structural airframe component according to claim 45.



60. (*New*) An airframe for an aircraft including at least one structural airframe component according to claim 32.



61. (*New*) An airframe for an aircraft including at least one structural airframe component according to claim 46.



62. (*New*) An airframe for an aircraft including at least one structural airframe component according to claim 47.



63. (*New*) An airframe for an aircraft including at least one structural airframe component according to claim 33.



64. (*New*) An airframe for an aircraft including at least one structural airframe component according to claim 48.

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65. (*New*) An airframe for an aircraft including at least one structural airframe component according to claim 49.

66. (*New*) An airframe for an aircraft including at least one structural airframe component according to claim 37. --